

A BILL

To amend the Federal Employees' Compensation Act to provide a schedule of benefits in cases involving permanent partial disability.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 4 of the Federal Employees' Compensation Act is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new subsection:

"(c) In any case of permanent partial disability which does not involve solely the loss or loss of use of a member or function of the body as listed and described in section 5(a), the employee may, if he so elects, be provided compensation for physical impairment based on the body as a whole instead of compensation as provided in section 4(a) for permanent partial disability. Such compensation shall be paid at the rate of $66\frac{2}{3}$ percentum of the employee's monthly pay for a period of weeks determined by using the degree of physical disability in proportion to 625 weeks. An election made by an employee to receive such compensation shall be in writing in form prescribed by the Secretary and filed with him no later than 90 days after notice is given to the employee that he may make such election. The election when made shall be irrevocable and the benefits awarded under this section shall be in lieu of compensation for permanent disability otherwise provided by the Act. The failure of the employee to make such election shall not affect his entitlement to compensation provided in sections 3, 4(a), and 5(a). Compensation payable under this subsection shall be reduced by the amount of compensation paid under section 4(a) or 5(a) on account of permanent disability.